

A

REVIEWV OF THE S T A T E OF THE ENGLISH NATION.

Thursday, January 30. 1706.

ICome now to the last Article about Petitioning, which has been the main Occasion of these Papers upon that Subject, *Viz.*

4. *Of the Duty of Petitioners.*

And here I must begin with Negatives, and cannot but again call to mind the honest Minister at the new Kirk, who told us, that he did not understand Addressing to Authority SWORD IN HAND; This, as that Gentleman very well said, is rather a bold Declaration, than an humble Address.

If People will Address, let them do it like an Address; if they will Petition, let it be a Petition — On the other Hand, if they will remonstrate, let them remonstrate, and be plain; if they have Reason

and Justice, no doubt the Parliament will bear them both Ways: But to remonstrate and address both in a Breath, that's like the French King making War, while he gives Peace to Europe. To have it be an humble Address in the Title, and a bold Declaration in the Body of the Paper, this is neither Peace nor War; it looks no way and every way altogether. In short, 'tis neither honest nor legal; 'tis not legal, because it is against Government, and does not correspond with it self; it calls it self one thing, and is really another; it has a silken Face and a steely Heart; a Smile on the Brow and a Grin in the Thought, 'tis unjust and unfair.

If Men will be call'd Addressers or Petitioners, they must act as such, or else 'tis honest to quit the Title.

The

The Duty of Addressers in the next Place, is to leave the Matter of their Addresses to the Consideration of the Persons addressed or petitioned, and to acquiesce in their Determination or Judgment. An Address, that will have no Nay, is no more an Address, but as I said before a Precept or Direction.

To such I cannot but speak a Word by way of Caution——At the same time they plead for a Right of Petitioning, I hope they do not demand a Right, or by it mean a Right of Direction.

I confess, I am at a Loss to know, how some Gentlemen, who addressed the Parliament of Scotland, would have us to understand their Words, WE HOPE AND CONFIDENTLY EXPECT, Words frequently us'd in some Addresses I have seen there; whether they really have any Confidence in the Parliament or no, I cannot tell; 'tis my Opinion, they have enough in the Expression.

A Right of Petitioning, I agree, is undoubted; but what Authority these Gentlemen will bring for a Right to oblige the Parliament to follow their Directions, I cannot imagine any more than I can, how they would properly be called a Parliament or Representative, if that Power were left in the Persons they represent.

As therefore, I would by no means lessen the Authority of the People in the Reserves of Right left them; so I would by no means reduce Parliaments to Mobs and Rabbles, and make them pay Homage every Day to the absolute Directions of their Constituents. This were indeed to sacrifice to our SOVEREIGN LORD THE PEOPLE, and to level the Legislators, as a late Author has it, *to the Will and Humour of the People. State of the Controversie, p. 14.*

The People without doubt have committed to their Representatives the Management of all their civil Affairs, and the Power of making, explaining, amending, executing and repealing Laws——In these Terms, are concluded all the Trusts, that are contain'd in Life, Limb, Property and Estate——This Management extends to subjecting Life and Estate to Punishment for Crimes, stating Protection to Property and Administration of Justice, regulating, altering, limiting and declaring all things

belonging to Government, Succession, Constitution and executive Power.

If our nearest Relations break the Laws these make, we follow them to the Gibbet with Regret and Lamentations, at the Misfortune in committing the Crime; but no Complaints at the *Makers of the Law*, we acquiesce in that as the Act and Deed of the Parliament.

This Doctrine quite overthrows the Legality of the People, first addressing, and then assembling to make an open Demand of an Answer, or what else they please to call it, to their Address.

And those Gentlemen that find fault with the late Proclamation in Scotland for preventing such assembling, as illegal, can never defend the Legality of their Part, to come in a Body, as some People call it, expecting therefore the more Respect: This can have no other nor better Construction, than to say, we will make such an Appearance, as shall awe the Parliament by our Numbers to grant our Demands.

I would not be a forward Censurer of the Designs of any Body, further than Reason justifies, but I can't see, it will bear any other Construction; and if not, then it is directly contrary to the very Nature of addressing, as well as to the Duty and Deference owing to Parliamentary Authority.

What can the Meaning of Number be but Strength, what their appearing but Force? The Government therefore of Scotland are highly justified in exerting the needful Authority entrusted to them for that End, in preventing the early Beginnings of these Assemblies, that contrary to the true Meaning and Nature of Addressers, design'd to have aw'd or influenced the Parliament in their Appearance.

Those Gentlemen, whoever they are, that contriv'd that Design, were in my Opinion strangely mistaken in their Measures, and have something to account for their so Discretion, if they had really a Design to have insulted the Parliament; for they could not but imagine, than an Attempt of drawing together undiscerned, as impossible in a City no bigger than Edinburgh, and in a Government that, GOD be prais'd, have their Eyes about them.

Nor

Not could they expect, but at the first Appearance of a Concourse of Strangers, the Town would be allarm'd, their Design be discover'd, and consequently prevented.

But I must own, they made Amends for their Want of Forecast in the Design, by the Discretion of laying it aside at last, and not ruining themselves and their Friends upon the certain Destruction of an impracticable Attempt ; and I doubt not, they will be sensible by this Time, that they were in the wrong.

But this by the way ; that Part I am upon is in short this : All tumultuary Parts of Management in Matters of Addressing or Petitioning Parliaments or Governors, is not contrary to the Laws only, but contrary to the Nature of Addressing, contrary to the Duty of Subjects, and ought rather to be call'd, bold *Declarations in Opposition to Legal Authority.*

MISCELLANEA.

IN my last *Miscellanea*, I put off the Dialogue for a Paper or two, and offer'd you something about *Scotland* as to its Fruitfulness, and its being capable of Improvement ; I acknowledge this a Doctrine fitter to be preach'd to the *Scots* themselves, and I have not been backward that way neither — But I must own, there is such a general ill Notion got into the Minds of the People in *England*, of *Scotland* it self in all its Circumstances, that I cannot but think, 'tis necessary to open their Eyes a little, especially now we are on a Treaty of Union with them, that People may get over the great Question, whether 'tis worth while to unite with them or no ?

Scotland in its Soil, Climate and Circumstances of the Country to me seems equally capable of Improvement, as most Parts of *England*, and the Difference lies only in the Want of Application.

'Tis true, there are Lands in *Scotland* meerly barren, and capable of no Improvement, and lie waste, and must do so to the End of the World ; and what must be done with them, said an honest enquiring Gentleman in *Scotland* to me lately ?

Why, Sir, when you come to a piece of Land, said I, that is really good for nothing at all, meer Rock, or Sand, or Moss, you must do by them, as we do in *England* — What's that, said the Gentleman, very eager to hear what we did in *England* with Lands, that were fit for nothing ?

Why Sir, says I, *We let them alone.*

And tho' the Gentleman seem'd disappointed, the Case is plain ; we have great Tracts of Lands in *England*, that are meerly barren, given up to Sand and Heath, as at *Bogshot*, or to Rocks and Torrs, as at *Stanage Top in the Peak*, or *Blackston-Edge*, or to *Bog* and *Quagmire* as the *Moss* in *Lancashire*, and the like : But this does not imply, that the Lands in *Scotland*, that are good, rich and capable of Improvement, should not be forc'd, planted, manured and cultivated, as in *England*.

This would encourage their Husbandmen, keep their People at home, make them diligent, and make their Labour pleasant.

Indeed I purpose to descend to Particulars, and become more serious upon this Point, and I doubt not, the People of *Scotland* will be thankful for the Hints I may give them on this Head ; for I do not see them backward to receive the Thought, nor as Opportunity may offer, to set about it.

'Tis true, it must be a Work of Time, and it must be meer Strength of Stock, as well as Application, must do it ; but with That it may done ; and after a Union, I doubt not, but *English Farmers*, *English Graziers*, and *English Husbandmen* will find it their Interest to put that in Practice, which perhaps for the present they may better know how to do, than the Country themselves — — — — — But I think, never Charge, Labour and Industry would, with less

less Time and less Risque, be brought to its Reward than there ; and nothing is to be had in this World without Labour and Industry.

Nature's a Virgin, very chaste and coy,
To courser's Nonsense, if you will enjoy,
Ske must be ravish'd —

When she's forc'd, she's free,
A perfect Prostitute to Industry.

WHereas a malicious Report has been spread about, that the Author of the REVIEW being in Scotland, the REVIEW is not perform'd by the same Person, as usual— Which Report is carefully bandied about to lessen the Reputation and Value of the said Paper.

This is, First, to assure the World, that no Person whatever has or ever had any Concern in writing the said Paper Entitl'd the REVIEW, than the known Author D. F.— That wherever the Author may be, the Papers are wrote with his own Hand, and the Originals may be seen at the Printers.

Secondly, the Judgment of the Gentlemen, that spread this Report, must be very good ; that can neither guess at the Stile, nor guess by the Story or Manner of it both, whether it be the Author's, and where the Author is.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Tuesday last was Publish'd,

CALEDONIA, a Poem, in Honour of Scotland, and the Scots Nation. Dedicated to the Duke of Queensberry, Her Majesty's High-Commissioner ; and wrote as well to do Justice to that abus'd Country, as to let some Gentlemen in England know, the Scots are a Nation worth Uniting with. By the Author of the True-Born Englishman. Printed for J. Morpew near Stationers-Hall.

Lately Publish'd,

A New Description of the World, delineating Europe, Asia, Africa, and America ; with a Map and Tables of the Empires, Kingdoms, Provinces, and Cities therein, together with a Chronological and Historical Account of the Emperors, Kings, Princes, Governments, Religion, Languages, Customs, Commodities, Revolutions, and Rarities thereof. By H. Curson, Gent. Sold by John Morpew near Stationers-Hall.

A Specific Electuary for the Palsie ; being a true and most absolute Remedy for that Distemper, let it proceed from what Cause soever ; it infallibly and quickly accomplishes the Cure, tho' it be a universal Paralysis, all parts of the Body affected, and of never so long standing, for its warms, comforts and strengthens the infieble Nerves, frees them from all Obstructions, and carries off the pituitous or sharp Humours, that cause their Resolution, by Liquefaction and Revives the pristine Force and Vigour of the Nerves and Tendons, increasing the Animal Spirits, restoring the natural Strength and the Use of all the Limbs, and perfectly taking away all Numbness, Deadness, &c. as if it were done by a Miracle. In a Word, it fortifies the Stomach, and performs the whole Cure so speedily, with such Ease, Pleasure, and Infallibility, without Trouble and Confinement, that one would almost believe it so be a Divine Help. In a hundred Experiments it has not been known to fail. Is sold only at Mr. Spooner's, at the Golden Half-Moon in Buckle-Street in Goodman's-Fields near Whitechapel, at 3 s. a Pot, with Directions.

These are to give Notice.

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++ She lives at the Golden-Ball in Hand-Court, over against great Turnstile in Holborn.

